

Docket No. AB-238U2

Amendments to and Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An apparatus for use with a Behind The Ear Implantable Cochlear Stimulation system, comprising:

an earhook configured to be removably attachable to a Behind The Ear (BTE) unit of an Implantable Cochlear Stimulation (ICS) system;

a microphone assembly, wherein the microphone assembly includes a microphone having three terminals, and wherein the microphone is configured to be electrically connected to a speech processor of the ICS system using a first conductor, a second conductor, and a third conductor, wherein the first conductor is connected to a mating connector and wherein the second and third conductors are connected to a bias setting resistor; and

a bendable, formable stalk having a first end attached to the earhook and a second end directed for directing the microphone to the inside of an ear; and

[[a]] wherein the microphone assembly is attached to the second end of the stalk.

Claims 2-4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (currently amended): The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the microphone assembly further comprises a filter at a [[the]] distal end of the microphone assembly, wherein the filter seals the microphone from the environment.

Claim 6 (original): The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the stalk is formed of shrink tubing.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the microphone assembly further includes a sleeve and wherein the microphone resides in the sleeve.

Claim 8-20 (canceled)

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Claim 21 (new): The apparatus of Claim 7, further comprising:
at least one stiffening wire member having a first wire end and a second wire end,
wherein the first wire end terminates proximate the mating connector and the second wire end is
attached to the sleeve; and
a cable, wherein the conductors reside within the cable; and
wherein the at least one stiffening wire member and the cable are wound to form the
bendable, formable stalk.

Claim 22 (new): An apparatus for use with a Behind The Ear Implantable Cochlear
Stimulation system, comprising:
an earhook configured to be removably attachable to a Behind The Ear (BTE) unit of an
Implantable Cochlear Stimulation (ICS) system;
a microphone assembly, wherein the microphone assembly includes a microphone
having a soundport and a plurality of terminals, and wherein the microphone is adapted to be
electrically connected to a speech processor of the ICS system using a plurality of conductors
attached to the plurality of terminals, and wherein at least one of the conductors is connected to
a mating connector; and
a bendable, formable stalk having a first end attached to the earhook and a second end
attached to the microphone, and wherein the microphone is positioned on the second end of the
stalk so as to be adapted to reside within a concha of a user's ear with the soundport directed
downward when the BTE unit is worn on the user's ear.

Claim 23 (new): The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the microphone assembly further
comprises a filter at a distal end of the microphone assembly, wherein the filter seals the
soundport from the environment.

Claim 24 (new): The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the stalk is formed of shrink tubing.

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Claim 25 (new): The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the microphone assembly further includes a sleeve and wherein the microphone resides in the sleeve.

Claim 26 (new): The apparatus of Claim 25, further comprising:
at least one stiffening wire member having a first wire end and a second wire end, wherein the first wire end terminates proximate the mating connector and the second wire end is attached to the sleeve; and
a cable, wherein the plurality of conductors reside within the cable; and
wherein the at least one stiffening wire member and the cable are wound to form the bendable, formable stalk.

Claim 27 (new): The apparatus of Claim 26, wherein the microphone, the sleeve, the second wire end of the at least one stiffening wire member, and the conductors are covered by a boot, wherein the boot includes an access hole for the soundport.

Claim 28 (new): The apparatus of Claim 27 wherein the boot is molded from an elastomer.

Claim 29 (new): An In The Ear (ITE) microphone for use with a Behind-The-Ear (BTE) speech processor of an implantable cochlear stimulation (ICS) system, the BTE speech processor having an earhook adapted to allow the BTE speech processor to be worn behind the ear of a user, the ITE microphone comprising:

a microphone assembly comprising a microphone and a bendable, formable stalk;
wherein the microphone has a soundport and a plurality of terminals, and is adapted to be electrically connected to the BTE speech processor using a plurality of conductors attached to the plurality of terminals, and wherein at least one of the plurality of conductors is connected to the BTE speech processor through a mating connector, and
wherein the bendable, formable stalk has a first end attached to the earhook and a second end attached to the microphone, and wherein the microphone is positioned on the second end of the stalk so as to be adapted to reside within a concha of a user's ear with the soundport directed in a direction set by the user when the BTE unit is worn on the user's ear;

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whereby the microphone of the microphone assembly resides within the concha of the user's ear, thereby providing an ITE microphone.

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Amendment A
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